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## Adm. Raborn, Ex-Sooner, New CIA Head

By J. BOB LUCAS

Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (Retired Adm.)

William F. Raborn, new director of the Central Intelligence Agency, is an Oklahoman and proud of it.

The Texas-born Raborn who grew up in Oklahoma was named to the CIA helm Sunday by President Johnson. He succeeds John A. McCone, West Coast industrialist.

He gives the state in general and former U.S. Sen. Elmer Thomas in particular much of the credit for his successful career.

"The fine folk of Oklahoma gave me my chance in life," Raborn said in a recent recorded conversation with U.S. Sens. Mike Monroney and Fred Harris.

"I went to the U.S. Naval Academy from Marlow. I want to say how grateful I am that your (Monroney's) predecessor, former Sen. Thomas, gave me a chance to go to the Naval Academy."

Both Monroney, who defeated Thomas in 1950, and Harris agreed that the former senator indeed had left his mark on the state.

RABORN ALSO WAS HIGH IN his praise of Oklahoma workmen.

"I hear nothing but the finest kind of compliments about the quality work done by our Oklahoma people," he said, "and I'm sure more and more contracts are going to be let in your area."

Raborn also said it was a source of satisfaction to him that Oklahoma had one of the nation's outstanding congressional delegations.

The new CIA director, 59, is best known as the father of the Polaris submarine weapons system.

Raborn was born in Decatur, Tex. He attended public school in Ryan and Marlow, Okla.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Raborn, lived in Oklahoma City 15 years before moving to San Antonio.

ASKED WHEN THE JOB switch would take place, the President replied that Raborn would return with him to Washington today.

Raborn will leave the vice presidency of Aerojet General Corp. of Pasadena, Calif., to take over his new post. He retired from the Navy in September 1963 after serving as deputy chief of naval operations for research, a job in which he also was based in Washington.

Raborn was graduated from the Naval Academy in 1928. He is married and has two children.

His selection for the CIA job brought praise from former associates and shipmates.